

REMARKS

This amendment responds to an Office Action bearing a mailing date of January 9, 2004.

In the first paragraph of the Office Action the examiner objected to the Abstract stating that line 11 had to be deleted. Applicant has included herewith an amended Abstract showing the deletion of line 11.

In paragraphs 2 through 4 of the Office Action the examiner objected to Claims 1 through 3 as having a number of informalities. In paragraph 5 of the Office Action the examiner rejected Claims 1 through 5 under 35 USC Section 112 as being indefinite. Applicant has cancelled Claims 1 through 5 and added new Claims 6 through 16 which are believed to overcome the objections and the indefiniteness stated in the Office Action.

In the Office Action section titled "Priority" the examiner stated the applicant cannot rely on the foreign priority papers to overcome a rejection because translation of the papers has not been made of record in accordance with 37 CFR 1.55. Applicant sent a certified copy of priority document German Patent Application Serial Number 10014166.8 to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on April 24, 2001. Applicant encloses herewith a translation of the priority document certified by the translator. Accordingly, applicant believes that the German priority document filed March 23, 2000 may be used to overcome the rejection on the basis of a document filed between the filing date of the German patent application priority document serial number 10014166.8 filed March 23, 2000 and the filing date of the instant application, this being March 12, 2001.

Page 4 of the Office Action relates to a claims rejection under 35 USC Section 102. Paragraph 6 of the Office Action rejects Claims 1 and 2 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Gardenfors (U.S. Publication Number 2002/0119685). It should be noted that the cited Gardenfors publication was filed November 30, 2001 based upon a provisional application filed December 4, 2000. Clearly, applicant's German priority document, German patent application serial number 10014166.8 filed March 23, 2000 forming the basis of priority for the instant application which was filed March 12, 2001 renders the rejection under 35 USC Section 102(e) moot inasmuch as the Gardenfors application was filed in the United States after the German priority document was filed.

In paragraph 7 of the Office Action the examiner rejected Claims 1, 2, 4, and 5 under 35 USC Section 102(e) as being anticipated by Sternglass (U.S. Patent Number 5,995,025). Sternglass discloses an expandable keyboard that is a full-size or expanded keyboard for typing which has one or more foldable segments which may be folded to minimize size during transport or storage. Sternglass does not disclose two separate and distinct independent and foldable keyboards. Instead, the foldable segments disclosed in Sternglass are parts of the unitary, single keyboard. When folded, the keys of the first and second foldable keyboard segments (or right and left foldable keyboard segments) overlie and face the keys of the center keyboard (Fig. 1B). Thus, the center segment cannot be used when the foldable segments are in a folded position.

In contrast thereto, applicant's invention discloses two independent keyboards. In other words, the first keyboard component which is illustrated as a numeric keyboard on a cell phone operates independently of the second keyboard when the second keyboard is in its folded or stored position. Additionally, the first and second keyboards are so arranged in their respective first and second housing components, that when the second housing for the second or auxiliary keyboard is folded back, the back side of the second housing component engages the back side of the first housing for the first keyboard component. Thus, when the second keyboard is folded with respect to the first keyboard, the second keyboard faces away from the first keyboard. With this configuration, the first keyboard can be utilized independently of the second keyboard when the second keyboard is in a folded position. This is in contrast to the keyboards disclosed in Sternglass where the folding keyboards overlie and face each other when in the folded position. The back-to-back positioning of the two keyboards of applicant's invention is set forth in new Claim 6.

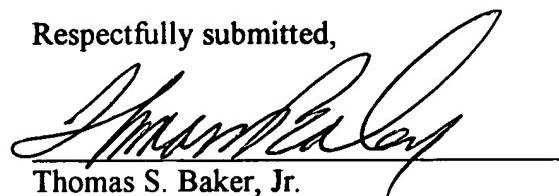
The examiner also rejected former Claim 3 which has been replaced by new Claims 10 through 12 under 35 USC Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyashita (U.S. Patent Number 6,327,482). Applicant submits that the Miyashita patent has an additional display which in one embodiment (Fig. 3) shows one display overlying another display when in the folded position and in another embodiment (Fig. 4) is withdrawn from and inserted into the sides of the mobile radio apparatus disclosed therein. Again, the keyboards of applicant's invention face away from each other when the second

keyboard is in the folded position. Applicant submits that Miyashita does not disclose the inventive idea of applicant's invention as set forth in new Claims 6 through 16.

Applicant submits that new Claims 6 through 16 now are in condition for allowance and such action respectively is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 25 Mar 2007



Thomas S. Baker, Jr.
Registration Number 25,662
1371 West 3rd Avenue
Columbus, Ohio 43212
Telephone Number: 614/488-2202
Facsimile Number: 614/488-2232